



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte KEN C.K. CHEUNG and CHRISTOPHER J. SULLIVAN

Application No. 09/975,507

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on October 26, 2005. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the examiner. The matters requiring attention prior to docketing are identified below:

On June 18, 2004, an Examiner's Answer was mailed. A review of the Examiner's Answer reveals that there is insufficient evidence that an appeals conference was conducted by the examiner. The Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) § 1208 (8th ed., Rev. 2, 2004) states:

On the examiner's answer, below the primary examiner's signature, the word "Conferee should be included, followed by the typed or printed names of the other two appeal conference participants. These two appeal conference participants must place their initials next to their name. This will make the record clear that an appeal conference has been held.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is returned to the examiner:

- (a) for the examiner to issue a corrected Examiner's Answer having the initial or signature of the conferees placed next to their respective typed name;
- (b) for the Examiner to mail a copy of the corrected answer to appellants, and
- (c) for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

By:


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